To frown upon the enrag'd Northumberland!
Let heaven kiss earth ! Now let not nature's hand
Keep the wild flood confin'd ! let order die !
And let this world no longer be a stage,
To feed contention in a lingering act;
But let one spirit of the first-born Cain
Reign in all bosoms, that, each heart being set
On bloody courses, the rude scene may end,
, And darkness be the burier of the dead[6] *!*

TRA. This strained passion[7] doth you wrong, my lord.

BARD. Sweet earl, divorce not wisdom from your honour.

the present passage, or in that In As You Like It: [t6] My voice is *ragged.'* See vol. vi. p. 396, n. 7.

Again, in The Rape of Lucrece:

" Thy secret pleasure turns to open shame,—
" Thy smoothing titles to a *ragged* name."

Again, in our poet's eighth Sonnet:

" Then let not Winter's *ragged* hand deface
" In thee thy summer."

Again, in the play before us :

" A *ragged* and fore-stall'd remission."

MALONE.

[6] And DARKNESS be the burier of the dead !] The conclusion of this noble speech is extremely striking. There is no need to suppose it exactly philosophical; *darkness,* in poetry, may be *absence of eyes,* as well as privation of light. Yet we may remark, that by an ancient opinion it has been held, that if the human race, for whom the world was made, were extirpated, the whole system of sublunary nature would cease. JOHNSON.

A passage resembling this speech, but feeble in comparison, Is found in The Double Marriage of Beaumont and Fletcher :

«---------That we might fall.
" And in our ruins swallow up this kingdom,
St Nay the whole world, and make a second chaos."

BOSWELL.

7 This strained passion—] This line, in the quarto, where alone it is found, is given to Umfrevile, who, as Mr. Steevens has observed, is spoken of in this very scene as absent. It was on this ground probably rejected by the player-editors. It is now, on the suggestion of Mr. Steevens, attributed to Travers, who is present, and yet (as that gentleman has remarked) " is made to say nothing

on this interesting occasion,'* MALONE.

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